

Carlos Washington PASTOR
(Phonetic: pahsTOR)

ARGENTINA

Minister of Foreign
Affairs and Worship
(since November 1978)

Addressed as:
Mr. Minister



Retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Carlos Pastor became Foreign Minister when his predecessor resigned in a dispute with President Jorge Videla. Pastor is in tune with Videla's foreign policy thinking and has been responsive to the President's wishes. The Buenos Aires *Herald* has reported that Pastor feels strongly about the "anti-Argentine campaign" from abroad on the human rights problem and that he favors improving Argentina's relations with South Africa. Pastor has been friendly toward the United States, and while on active duty with the Air Force he urged US-Argentine cooperation on scientific projects. US military officials in Argentina described Pastor in 1968 as astute, hard working and conscientious and as one of the best generals in the Air Force. More recently, a US Embassy official has said that he is an affable man who lacks sparkle and who does not give the impression of knowing what the Foreign Ministry is all about.

Pastor received his Air Force commission in 1945, after having graduated from the National Military College and the Military Aviation School. He was a member of the Argentine Air Mission in the United States from 1956 to 1957. During the 1960s he served as secretary general of the Aeronautics Secretariat, vice chief of staff for plans, chief of plans, and director of Air Force personnel in the Air Operations Command. Because he was strongly anti-Peronist, when former President (1943-55) Juan Perón returned to power in 1973, Pastor was replaced without being given a new assignment and was thus forced to retire. He remained out of public life for the next five years.

Pastor, who will be 55 on 4 July, is married to the sister of President Videla's wife. He has at least two children. He speaks Italian.

CR M 79-13549
18 June 1979